

HONORING MAYOR MIKE OCHS

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Mayor Mike Ochs for his contribution to our state and the City of North Vernon.

Throughout his career, Mike has served Jennings County and the City of North Vernon with honor and integrity. From his time as a sheriff's deputy to his service as mayor, Mike has made improving the quality of life in North Vernon and the surrounding area his main priority. Our state is better off today because of his extraordinary leadership and service.

On a personal note, Mike has been a loyal friend and wise adviser during my entire tenure in Congress. I want to thank him for his friendship and support of my work. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for him and his family.

PULMONARY HYPERTENSION
AWARENESS MONTH**HON. JAMIE RASKIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2018

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Pulmonary Hypertension (PH) Awareness Month and the outstanding work of the Pulmonary Hypertension Association in the fight against this rare and debilitating disease.

PH is a type of high blood pressure that occurs in the arteries of the lungs. It reflects the pressure the heart must apply to pump blood from the heart through the arteries of the lungs. As with a tangled hose, pressure builds up and backs up, forcing the heart to work harder and less oxygen to reach the body. PH symptoms generally include fatigue, dizziness, and shortness of breath with the severity of the disease correlating with its progression. If left undiagnosed or untreated it can lead to heart failure and death.

When individuals are diagnosed with PH quickly and begin appropriate therapy, their prognosis and life-expectancy improve dramatically. However, it currently takes an average of 2.5 years to receive a diagnosis and three quarters of patients have severe PH when they are finally diagnosed. Without treatment, historical studies have shown a mean survival time of 2.8 years after diagnosis for pulmonary arterial hypertension. Patients with advanced PH cannot benefit as greatly from available therapies and often face dramatic and costly medical interventions, including 24-hour IV infused medication, increased risk for hospitalization and in some cases heart-lung transplantation.

I am proud to represent the Pulmonary Hypertension Association, which is headquartered in my district in Silver Spring, Maryland. The Association is dedicated to extending and improving the life of those affected by PH and was the first organization in the world dedicated to providing comprehensive PH patient and caregiver support, medical education, specialty care services that improve

patients' quality of life, and research funding. Thanks in large part to the Pulmonary Hypertension Association's advocacy for continued investment in medical research and sustained scientific progress, there are 14 Food and Drug Administration-approved targeted treatment options for two forms of PH. Additionally, their efforts to establish a PH Program at the CDC focusing on education, awareness, and epidemiology activities that promote early and accurate diagnosis and quality care for PH are to be commended.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing November as Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month and to continue supporting federal activities that improve the lives of those with PH, including research programs at the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

RECOGNIZING THE GARY CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE AND THE
11TH ANNUAL LAKESHORE CLASSIC**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2018

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I recognize the Gary Chamber of Commerce as the organization celebrates the 11th annual Lakeshore Classic basketball invitational. In observance of this special event, the Gary Chamber of Commerce will host a celebratory corporate luncheon at the Diamond Center in Gary, Indiana, on Tuesday, November 20, 2018, followed by the basketball invitational at West Side Leadership Academy on Friday, November 23, 2018, and Saturday, November 24, 2018.

The theme for this year's Lakeshore Classic, "Step Up for Education," aims to support the importance of fostering education for the continued success of student athletes throughout the region. The Gary Chamber of Commerce has chosen Mr. LaTroy Hawkins, a Gary native and retired professional baseball player, as the keynote speaker for the luncheon. Born and raised in Gary, LaTroy graduated from West Side High School in 1991 and was drafted straight out of high school. In 1995, he made his Major League Baseball (MLB) debut, playing for the Minnesota Twins. Throughout his outstanding twenty-one-year big league career, LaTroy played for several teams and established an impressive résumé. A testament to his preparation, determination, and talent, Mr. Hawkins became only the 13th pitcher in the history of the league to record a save against every team in baseball. He also ranks 10th on the all-time appearances list having pitched in 1,042 games, placing him in special company among baseball's greats. LaTroy Hawkins retired from baseball on October 25, 2015. For his truly impressive career, Mr. Hawkins was inducted into the Indiana Baseball Hall of Fame earlier this year.

Mr. Hawkins and his beloved family consistently devote much of their time to charitable efforts throughout the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond by feeding the homeless, helping students attend college, assisting victims of domestic violence, and supplying uniforms and equipment to the athletic program

at LaTroy's high school alma mater, West Side High School. LaTroy Hawkins has improved the lives of the youth in our communities, and his legacy will continue to have an unforgettable impact for generations to come.

At this time, I would like to recognize the schools participating in the Lakeshore Classic basketball tournament. These schools are dedicated to positively impacting Northwest Indiana through academic excellence and sportsmanship, and they are successful in their efforts. The participating schools include West Side Leadership Academy, John Marshall Metropolitan High School, Thea Bowman Leadership Academy, George Washington High School, Theodore Roosevelt College and Career Academy, Calumet New Tech High School, and Michigan City Marquette Catholic High School.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the Gary Chamber of Commerce, the organizers and sponsors of the 11th annual Lakeshore Classic, and the devoted volunteers who make this event possible. Their influence, passion, and dedication to our youth in Northwest Indiana are truly commendable.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2018

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 14, 2018, I missed roll call vote 418, on H. Res. 1142. If I had been present for this vote, I would have voted: Nay on roll call vote 418.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2018

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise this Veterans' Day week to express my gratitude to those who served our country and those who continue to serve.

Throughout our history, we have asked our brave men and women in uniform to do extraordinary things all over the world.

In return, we made a promise to provide them the best benefits, education, and health care possible.

One of the most important parts of my job is to make sure that veterans in my district get the benefits they've earned.

I've heard about the months-long delays veterans face in obtaining GI Bill benefits, and I am committed to working with my colleagues to fix the situation.

That's because our nation's leaders must honor our veterans, rain or shine.

I am happy that we will be joined in the next Congress by a new generation of veterans, including a record number of women veterans.

I look forward to working with them to fulfill the promise of Veterans' Day this week and all year long.